

D-5 794

D-5 795

D-5 796

8413

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
S. B. REGISTRY.

No. D 5794
Date 10 1 5 1934

CONNAUGHT RD. BUS INCIDENT

Case Against Chauffeur to
Go to Nantao Court

OUTSIDE ROAD QUESTION INVOLVED

Holding that the Connaught Road bus accident of April 7, when the Chapel police interfered with the Settlement police who attempted to remove the victim of the accident, a Chinese cyclist, occurred on an "outside road," Judge Wu Chih-han of the First Special District Court yesterday announced that the Settlement Chinese court had no jurisdiction over the private criminal case brought by the killed cyclist's father against the bus company chauffeur and instructed that the case be transferred to the Nantao District Court for trial.

The case in question came up for resumed hearing yesterday morning. When the Court started its session, Judge Wu asked the complainant, Sun Ming-tsang, whether he also wished to bring any civil claim against the bus chauffeur. The complainant replied that he would bring the civil claim against the China General Omnibus Co., the chauffeur's employer, whereupon the Judge told the complainant that this could not be done in the Chinese court because the China General Omnibus Co. was a British firm enjoying extraterritorial privileges in China.

After consultation with his lawyer, the complainant withdrew his civil claim against the bus company, but said he reserved his right to bring a similar claim against the chauffeur.

Agreement Close

As regards the question of jurisdiction, Judge Wu said he had visited last Wednesday morning the scene of the accident and found it had occurred on an "outside road." In accordance with the Rendition Agreement provisions, Judge Wu continued only "mixed cases," namely, cases involving foreigners, that had occurred on outside roads, would be accepted by his Court for hearing. As both parties in this case were Chinese, the case should be dealt with by the Nantao District Court.

The complainant again consulted his lawyer, and then he told the Judge that he had decided to withdraw the criminal case against the bus chauffeur in the Settlement Chinese court and would bring the matter to the Nantao District Court.

Mr. Y. D. Wong, Assistant Municipal Advocate, watched the case for the Municipal Police. After the complainant had withdrawn the case, Mr. Wong drew attention to the fact that in the past many cases that occurred on "outside roads" had been brought to the Court by such Chinese citizens as Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Mr. Liang Shao-chang, Mr. Liang Hsiang-shan, Mr. Liang Hsiang-shan, Mr. Liang Hsiang-shan, and Mr. Liang Hsiang-shan, and that the Court had no jurisdiction over such cases.

File 72

8578

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE	
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.	
No. D	5794
Date	23 / 4 / 34

THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS, SUNDAY, APRIL 22, 1934

CONNAUGHT RD. BUS INCIDENT

Legal Proceedings Against Bus Driver

JUDGE TO VISIT SCENE OF ACCIDENT

The question of jurisdiction over the "Connaught Road bus accident case" of April 7, when the removal of the victim of an accident, a Chinese cyclist, was delayed by the officers of Public Safety Bureau, came in for heated argument in the First Special District Court yesterday, when a private criminal prosecution was instituted against Wong Tsang-kuei, the bus driver concerned in the accident, by Sun Ming-tsang, father of the killed cyclist.

When the case was opened before Judge Wu Chieh-han, two officers from the Public Safety Bureau were called as witnesses and they maintained that the place where the accident occurred was within Chinese-controlled territory. One of the officers, a constable named Li Teh-kuei, 32, said that Connaught Road was an outside road and that he was on duty about 150 metres from the place of accident on April 7. Tsieng Yoh-tong, an inspector of the Public Safety Bureau, told the Judge that although water and electricity to Connaught Road residents were supplied by the Settlement companies, the place of the bus accident of April 7 was entirely within Chinese-controlled territory and that all traffic cases on this road had been hitherto handled by the Public Safety authorities.

The complainant, in answer to the Judge, stated, however, that the Shanghai Municipal Council collected the general rates from the residents of that road.

Decision Withheld

On the basis of the statements of the two Public Safety officers, a verbal ruling was given by Judge Wu that the case was not under this Court's jurisdiction. This ruling, however, drew a strong protest from Mr. Y. T. Van, lawyer for the driver, who declared that the question of jurisdiction could not be determined simply on the basis of the statements of two Public Safety officers without seeking further evidence.

After further questioning of the complainant, the witness and the two Public Safety officers as to whether the scene of the accident was

within the Chinese-controlled territory, the Judge gave a written decision that the hearing would be adjourned until he had paid a visit to the scene of the accident, it being pointed out that the case could not be proceeded with without first settling the question of jurisdiction. When the Judge will visit the place was not announced yesterday.

*File
JDR*

On Connaught Road

To the Editor:

I cannot say that I read with amazement the article in your issue of the 14th April by Kwei Chungshu on the Connaught Road accident. The heading "As a Chinese sees it" dispelled the possible amazement which the article may have caused.

Kwei Chungshu appears to be a little vague as to the issue at stake. In Para. 4 he writes, "The main issue centers around the condition of the victim immediately after the accident." In Para. 10 he states that the "clue to the whole agitation lies as to whether a hue and cry would have been raised had the accident happened in the Settlement."

Kwei Chungshu drags the Sino-Japanese skeleton out of the cupboard in an attempt to hit at a daily contemporary and concludes his article with blaming the Japanese. His question, Kwei Chungshu would probably have us to believe that the Japanese were to blame

directly or indirectly for the incident arising out of the Connaught Road accident.

According to Chinese law, as quoted by Kwei Chungshu, a man is dead when visible breathing has stopped. (Italics are mine). Does this mean that if a person is not seen by the naked eye to be breathing he is dead? If so, I would not like to be in a trance under a Chinese doctor or lawyer.

Kwei Chungshu's "common sense, view," that the victim's death must have been immediate, because a vehicle weighing 12,000 lbs. had run over his chest, cannot be taken for granted. One must remember the numerous cases on record where a person has received terrible injuries and has still survived. There are persons living who have broken necks and who should, according to Kwei Chungshu's "common sense," be rigid in death. I would like to cite the case of a U. S. Marine, who in this very city a few days ago, received gun shot wounds in the head via the mouth, became unconscious, regained consciousness and walked up a flight of steps, before collapsing again.

Death to the victim of the bus accident is, to quote Kwei Chungshu, doubly certain by testimonials of witnesses. He undoubtedly means the witnesses for the Chinese police. He must not forget the other witnesses who state that the victim did not die instantaneously. Much sounder common sense than Kwei Chungshu's is contained in the following sentence. A dead man cannot groan.

The deceased's mother has everyone's sympathy. But on the other hand I would like to suggest that the mother could not claim compensation from the Bus Co., if she agreed that death was not instantaneous and could possibly have been averted if the Chinese police had allowed the immediate removal of her son.

The victim was still alive. Kwei Chungshu asks, "Why did the kind-hearted Municipal Police take heed of the accident and remove him in spite of the objections of the Chinese Police?" He then goes on to state that "One wonders why these humanitarian brothers of mercy hesitated to remove some stiff, forty, but these to sustain 'statue' limbs." (Italics are mine). I ask Kwei Chungshu if he honestly believes that the Chinese law would have upheld the Municipal Police if the above combat had taken place?

Kwei Chungshu's previous question is ably answered by that "certain contemporary" who, if I may be permitted to quote state—something might have started which would, probably have proceeded far beyond control; and a very unfortunate affair transformed into a tragedy on a much larger scale.

It is amusing to read Kwei Chungshu's question which commences, "If the incident had happened within the Settlement." In conclusion, I ask Kwei Chungshu to state since when was Connaught Road not part of the Settlement road, why are the street name posts printed in foreign and Chinese and not Chinese alone?

LAU-BOO-SAH
Shanghai, April 16, 1934.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL PRIZE
C. & S. B. R. CITY.

No. D 5794

Date 18 1 1934

File 702

8356

CONNAUGHT ROAD INCIDENT REFUTED

Editor, THE CHINA PRESS.

After more than a week of needless dispute between The China General Omnibus Company and the Chinese police, the horrible accident in which a Chinese cyclist was knocked down and pinned underneath the bus (Settlement license No. 15007) along Connaught Road shortly after 3 p.m. on April 7, is still a thorny question before the Chinese and Settlement authorities in this city.

Involving the question of extra-settlement roads, this incident is particularly delicate and significant from a technical point of view. But no matter how the authorities concerned will settle this problem, all sensible residents in Shanghai must at least have a picture of what really happened. The verdict rendered by the American authorities on April 8, was that the Chinese cyclist was killed by a 28 caliber Colt who shot him through the chest of Thomas O. Plummer, a death of suicide.

Death Of Suicide

A young Russian, A. B. Begg, was sent to jail for the murder of a Chinese policeman on Saturday.

After Begg's Suicide

Workers were detained at the end of the road and a fine of \$1,000 was imposed on the Chinese police for their treatment.

Workers were detained at the end of the road and a fine of \$1,000 was imposed on the Chinese police for their treatment.

Workers were detained at the end of the road and a fine of \$1,000 was imposed on the Chinese police for their treatment.

Workers were detained at the end of the road and a fine of \$1,000 was imposed on the Chinese police for their treatment.

display given by the Chinese police in forcibly preventing immediate succour being given."

Mr. "Disgusted" Evidently, Mr. "Disgusted" must have a high discretionary power, otherwise he would not have chosen such a grand occasion to make his debut in the paper. Ordinary people with a little common sense could easily see whether or not the story published with such an exaggeration three days after the incident is of any good intention.

In the first place, as a leading paper here, the North China Daily News should be responsible for releasing the story in such a misleading manner. The reporter who collected the news must have accomplished a lot after three days of elaborate investigation. The most important thing we would like to know in a case like this is the part of the body which the heavy wheel of the omnibus rolled. Most likely, the paper has left out this most significant detail in order to satisfy its incredible fabrication. A thousand pounds heaped on the chest of any ordinary person will be sufficient to stop his breath in one or two seconds. If the man could still be shrieking from pain after six minutes when the Settlement ambulance was said to have arrived, he would have survived the crash to thank the papers for taking the trouble to publish the story on his account.

How About Victim's Mother? Again, the North China Daily News has failed to say anything about the victim's mother, who, in addition to her great sorrow for the bereavement of her only son had to stand the insult at the hand of a foreign officer in the Gordon Road Station. If the Chinese police were so barbarous as has been alleged, nobody would believe that the mother of the victim could allow her son, still shrieking from pain, to be kept under the wheel without either making any effort to rescue him or condemning the Chinese police for their torturing action.

After interviewing a few of the witnesses and after following closely all sides of the controversy in the papers during the last eight days, the writer cannot refrain from entertaining suspicion of the good intention of the North China Daily News in its publication of the story. Many foreign residents in Shanghai will be disappointed at the steps thus taken by their representative paper in needlessly arousing antagonistic feelings among Chinese and foreigners in this city, the peace and order of which depend to a large extent upon the good will and mutual understanding of all.

If the North China Daily News thinks that the Chinese authorities should be deprived of their jurisdiction over the settlement roads, it should pick out a better occasion or see if it can find a more frank and the Chinese should be grateful for its straight-forwardness and completely understand the responsibility of their country.

I am, etc.
C. K. CHEN.

Shanghai, April 18, 1934.

8356

8319

CONNAUGHT RD. SCANDAL

Some Cool Thinking

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—As popular interest in the "Connaught Road Incident" would seem, judging from the space it occupies in your correspondence columns, not waning, but rather increasing, on account of the mutual recriminations indulged in by various readers who have aligned themselves on one side or the other, may I request again a little space to ask for a little more cool thinking from those impulsive persons who would hurry to condemn before they have heard the whole case.

I would like merely to call attention to a crucial point which has

rather been lost sight of because "racial prejudices," "outside roads" and other irrelevant questions involving mutual washing of dirty linen have generated so much heat that the real issues have been lost sight of in the haze.

It is an axiom that the person who makes a statement shall be prepared, if called upon, to substantiate it. It is the duty, therefore, of those who contend that the unfortunate victim of the accident was not killed outright, to bring forth the strongest evidence they possess to sustain their allegation since the same has been traversed. Once their case is made out, then it will be time to call upon the Bureau of Public Safety to explain whatever there is to explain. I am not trying to take up the cudgels on behalf of the Bureau, and would wholeheartedly join in its condemnation if the allegations against the Bureau were all true. But I have noticed that all reports have been strangely silent over the official death certificate or the result of the coroner's inquiry. Yet that is the crux of the whole affair. A passing reference in the Omnibus Company's statement, appearing in your columns on April 13, mentioned that "the cause of death was shock." Everybody knows that a person who succumbs to injuries received in an accident invariably suffers from shock to some extent. The vital part of the medical testimony, however, that is missing is shock as the result of what injuries? Certain injuries do cause instantaneous death, and the medical evidence would perhaps be able instantly to dispel all the hot air that is blown about over this case.

F. T. WANG.

Shanghai, Apr. 16.

---The evidence that the victim of the accident did live a considerable time after the accident has been published in these columns and is overwhelming. One witness saw the unfortunate young man's arms and legs move. The Chinese Officer Cadet in charge of the Fire Brigade ambulance appealed to Mr. Shetter: "Mr. Shetter, for God's sake can't you do anything to get the man out, or maybe we can save his life." Another witness actually felt the victim's pulse beating and he was also breathing. A fourth witness saw the arms and legs moving, saw the man eventually shoot up the air and apparently die. This was at 11 p.m. Twenty-nine minutes before the accident. While there is some doubt as to the time as to whether the victim moved or died, it is certain that there is evidence on both sides of the case. Mr. Wang has had both sides of this unfortunate affair placed before him in the columns of this paper in the form of statements issued by the organizations concerned. A proper appreciation of evidential value can only lead to one conclusion. The official death certificate should be cancelled and the man should be allowed to be

702

ind

17

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.

No. D 57
Date 16 / 4 / 34

CONNAUGHT RD. SCANDAL

The Facts Examined

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—I have carefully gone over the facts of the Connaught Road scandal and have also carefully read the Chinese version of the affair, and find it to be nothing more or less than a tirade against the Shanghai Municipal Police and Extrajurisdiction. The evidence advanced by both members of the Bus Company and police force appears to be clear and truthful, even down to the fact that they actually have the number of the Chinese policemen who laid violent hands on one of the would-be rescuers.

If, as the Chinese version goes, a photographer was only a hundred yards down the road and that he was on the scene almost immediately, why on earth was the unfortunate victim not removed from under the bus until nearly an hour after the accident occurred. It sounds weak to me, to say the least of it.

The accusation made by the Chinese police that the face of the victim's mother was slapped by a Foreign police officer is absolutely unbelievable. I have opportunity enough of seeing our police at work and know for a fact that, whilst they are hard on law breakers, they are most kindly in their attitude towards sufferers. Kinder and fairer men than Messrs. Tullock and Fridmore, who we are informed had charge of the case, could not be found. Do the Chinese police really think that any sane thinking person, Chinese or Foreign, would believe the story that men who behaved themselves as Messrs. Tullock and Fridmore did under most provoking circumstances only a few minutes before would sink to the level of striking a woman who had just lost her only son under the most tragic circumstances? I say, shame! on those who started and gave voice to so foul a charge. The Municipal Council will surely not let such a statement pass unchallenged.

The statement made by the Chinese inferring that justice cannot be obtained against persons enjoying extrajurisdiction rights is an insult to every foreign court in Shanghai and should be vigorously protested by those concerned.

In concluding, permit me, Mr. Editor, to congratulate you on the stand you have taken and the energetic manner in which you have gone about getting to the truth of this shameful affair. Let us hope that your efforts on behalf of Humanity, Truth, and Justice will not be in vain.

For Truth.

Shanghai, Apr. 15, 1934

File 702

AS A CHINESE SEES IT THE CONNAUGHT ROAD ACCIDENT

By KWEI CHUNG-SHU

HUMAN credulity was taxed to the full during the European war when German atrocities were depicted with all vividness. It was not until ten years after the Armistice that the world, thanks to independent historians, began to appreciate the other side of the story. The propaganda machinery of the Allies proved so efficient that some of its surviving manipulators have never lost an opportunity to pride themselves reminiscently on their ingenuity.

Shanghai seems to be passing through a miniature world war ever since the Connaught Road incident occurred last Saturday. Chinese life in this community has seldom appeared so precious to a certain contemporary as it has in the present case. So much of its valuable front-page space has been devoted to the cause of humanity and truth, that one is almost inclined to believe that the outrages committed by the Japanese against the Chinese in Hong-kew in 1932, judged by the meagre accounts given by the same journal, must be read like mere bedtime stories.

How It Started

THE incident arose from a traffic accident in which a bus ran over a Chinese cyclist. The bus company and the municipal police claim that the Chinese police had prevented the removal of the victim from underneath the bus till a photograph was taken of the scene.

Many details have been drawn into this controversy, but only a few need be taken seriously into account. The main issue centers around the condition of the victim immediately after the accident. The bus company's officials and the municipal police are positive that the cyclist knocked down did not die till he was removed to the ambulance after a photograph had been taken, and that his life might have been saved had immediate medical aid been rendered.

For the Chinese police it is stated that the victim died instantly after the accident and that there appeared no sign of life to give hope for resuscitation.

The question is when a man is to be proclaimed dead. On this point it is to be found many a theory of medical jurisprudence, but according to the Chinese law which, I presume, is to govern the case at issue, a man is dead when visible breathing has stopped. On this basis it is obviously within the competence of a police officer or any normal-minded person to ascertain the extinction of life.

A Common Sense View

COMMON sense, moreover, is to be disregarded a person, riding on a bicycle knocked down, run over by his wheel and badly mangled by a bus in motion with a weight of 12,000 lbs. and a speed of 15 m.p.h. In the present case, the victim was a man.

In fact, their action in trying to save a human being over the alleged unwarranted attitude of the recalcitrant Chinese police would have been upheld by Chinese law, and one wonders why these humanitarian brothers of mercy hesitated to combat force with force but chose to submit as tame lambs while the victim was being slowly reduced to death! If the Chinese police were guilty of commission, then they would be guilty of omission.

The Root Of The Agitation

THE apparent tendency to make a mountain of a mole hill is of course engendered by no humanitarian motive. It is singular for instance, that so much has been written about the cruelty of the Chinese police and nothing has yet been said about the culpable negligence of the bus driver involved. While the attempt to divert the issue may provide an excuse for the driver to avoid a charge of manslaughter and the company to evade civil damages, the controversy is really an incident in the larger question of extra-judicial settlement roads. If the incident had happened in a Western country, would a bus and its driver have been raised? Therein lies the clue to the whole agitation.

Unfortunately, however, the solution to this time-honored problem is not to be evolved through a series of really provocative controversies. The Chinese have always maintained a friendly attitude throughout the negotiations, and the only obstacles have been placed by the Japanese and not the Chinese. If this case is faced frankly, consideration may be given to the suggestion of Mr. C. S. Franklin and Mr. F. F. Harris to adopt stronger measures toward the Chinese than used to underhand tactics. The solution by virtue of force at the disposal of the Chinese body has been the only way to settle the case. The Chinese have been the only ones to be treated with force.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.

No. D 5794

Date 1 - 134

File
JR

8544

Bus Company Makes Report On Tragic Incident

Statements From Foreign Officials Actually At
Scene Of Accident On Connaught Road;
Police Officer Pushed Over

In connection with the accident on Connaught Road last Saturday evening, resulting in the death of a Chinese cyclist who was pinned beneath one of the buses of the China General Omnibus Company and whose body was prevented from being removed by police of the Public Safety Bureau, the Bus Company has issued the following statement:

In view of the contradictory reports that have appeared in various local papers regarding the bus accident which was followed by a fatal result on the evening of Saturday last, and of the action of the Public Safety Bureau constables or other officers in connection therewith, it is felt that the following evidence from members of the staff of this Company is pertinent.

The accident occurred at 6.07 p.m. and 56 minutes elapsed before the ambulance removed the victim who by then had expired. The Chief Engineer and Traffic Manager of the Company, who lives in the vicinity, was himself a witness of most of what occurred, while three British members of the staff were also witnesses. Your reports of the occurrence, to date, have perhaps overstressed the shades of agony, but there is evidence that the unfortunate victim was alive for some time after the accident, and that he did utter sounds of suffering.

Cyclist Pinned Beneath

The bus ran over a cyclist who cut across in front of it in Connaught Road, near the Bus Depot. The cyclist was pinned under the front part of the bus with his machine.

Mr. Malleck, a British foreman employed in the Bus Company's garage, was one of the first on the scene. He saw the legs and arms of the cyclist moving, and was sure that he was alive. Then he and a Chinese garage hand endeavoured to lift the bus by means of breakdown jacks. They lifted it a few inches, and were prevented from further work by constables of the Public Safety Bureau.

A Shanghai Fire Brigade ambulance arrived in charge of a Chinese Officer Cadet of the Brigade, who finding that the Chapel Police would not allow the removal of the casualty, sent one of his crew with Mr. Malleck by car to telephone to Gordon Road Police Station for assistance.

Later the Cadet appealed to Mr. J. D. E. Shetter, Chief Engineer and Traffic Manager of the Company, saying that he was waiting for the ambulance to arrive. Mr. Shetter said that he would see that the ambulance arrived as soon as possible.

Police Take Over

As the Settlement Police from Gordon Road had by that time arrived, under the command of Sub-Inspectors Tullock and Pridmore, Mr. Shetter replied that he had handed the matter over to them.

Mr. Malleck saw Mr. Alfred Huxley, Night Superintendent of the Company, attempt to pull the cyclist from under the bus; he also saw a Chapel constable prevent him from doing so, by pulling Mr. Huxley away, at the same time threatening Mr. Huxley by placing his hand on his pistol holster.

Officer Pushed Over

Mr. Malleck saw Sub-Inspector Pridmore pushed over a stretcher by the Chapel Police, Mr. Pridmore falling to the ground. He also saw the Settlement officer in plain clothes (Sub-Inspector Tullock) pushed by the Chapel Police.

Mr. Huxley received the information regarding the accident a few minutes after it occurred, and at once proceeded to the scene. He found the cyclist alive, he was breathing and his pulse was beating. Mr. Huxley gave orders for the jack to be used, but Constables of the Public Safety Bureau refused to allow this. Mr. Huxley then forced his way through the large crowd round the bus, and told Mr. Malleck to use the jack, which he

did, the bus being lifted a few inches.

Mr. Huxley bent down and attempted to pull the cyclist out, but he was seized by Constable [Name] of the Public Safety Bureau, pulled backward and thus prevented from lifting out the cyclist. The same constable subsequently snatched Mr. Huxley's flashlight from him, for the use of the photograph.

Officer Knocked Down

The crowd was continually increasing, and Mr. Huxley asked Sub-Inspectors Tullock and Pridmore to keep it back. Sub-Inspector Pridmore attempted to do so, but was knocked down by the Chapel Police. A message was sent to Gordon Road Police Station asking for reinforcements which arrived later in two cars.

After their arrival a photograph was taken by a Chinese photographer following which the cyclist was removed from under the bus, but on removal appeared to be dead.

Mr. E. A. Taylor, Traffic Inspector of the Bus Company, first heard of the accident while on duty on the Company's premises and telephoned for the ambulance.

Still Alive

His evidence is that on arrival at the scene of the accident a few minutes after its occurrence he saw the arms and legs of the cyclist moving. He states that the casualty was alive until 6.36 p.m. at which time he saw the eyes close. This was 29 minutes after the accident occurred.

At 7.03 p.m. the body was removed from under the bus and placed on an ambulance which left at once for the Chinese Red Cross Hospital in Avenue Haig. On arrival there at 7.14 p.m. the man was found to be dead, and subsequently a death certificate was issued giving the cause of death as shock.

Statements have been put forward by sundry persons to the effect that the cyclist expired almost immediately after the accident—whether they are competent to judge is another matter—but from the above evidence it is clear that he survived for some time. Had early medical attention been made available his life might have been saved or at least his sufferings mitigated.

It cannot be emphasized too strongly that in the common interests of humanity the victim of any accident should be rendered the earliest possible medical attention, it being presumed that he is alive until life is pronounced extinct by competent authority.

There can be no doubt that the efforts of the Shanghai Municipal Police, the Fire Department, Ambulance Service and the Bus Company's employees to assist the injured party were frustrated by the members of the Bureau of Public Safety.

End

file 72

8336

BUS ACCIDENT

A Chinese Reader's Letter

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Will you be so good as to allow a Chinese reader to express a little comment on the Connaught Road "incident." I know as much about the matter as your other correspondents—nothing more than I have read in the newspapers, and as conflicting reports have appeared I am just as bewildered as ever as to what actually took place.

My object in writing this letter is to suggest that before your readers allow themselves to be carried away by indignation at the "inhuman" conduct of the Chinese police that they wait until the actual facts have been established.

Meanwhile, although I know that "two blacks don't make a white," I would like to mention that a recent visitor to Hongkong, Canon H. W. Brady, C.M.G., in the course of an interview told the reporters of an incident which occurred during his residence in South America. He was sent to prison for striking a policeman, after rescuing a girl from drowning.

"I got her out of the water, laid her on the ground and as she appeared to be all in I tried artificial respiration until help arrived. The 'help' arrived in the shape of the police, one of whom promptly hit me over the head with a chain. I went for the fellow and the next thing I remember was waking up in a cell."

"There is a curious law there that, in such a case as this, the person who has been injured or endangered must not be touched until the police or doctor arrives. Even if a person is run over by a car, he must be left entirely alone, though the doctor may not arrive for an hour or two."

I do not know what instructions have been issued by the Chinese police authorities, but I do think some of your correspondents should refrain from abuse until the facts of the Connaught Road "incident" have been clearly established. Then, it will be time to place the blame, and even then it should be possible to do so without using expressions which are offensive, and are apparently intended to be. I can assure you that some of us are just as anxious as foreigners that things in this country should be done in accordance with the highest accepted standards of modern civilisation, but we do not expect judgments to be formed while facts are still in dispute.

F. T. WANG.

Shanghai, Apr. 12.

***Mr. Wang will be better able to appreciate the truth of the original story after perusal of the eye-witness accounts of what actually took place on Saturday evening. He is to be congratulated upon the very moderate tone of his letter, but he will surely realize that the feeling indignation which he demonstrated has been aroused over the fate of one of his own countrymen.

✓

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE	
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.	
No. D	5794
Date	13 4 34

April 13, 1934.

Morning Translation.

Min Pao and other local newspapers :

ANNIVERSARY OF KUOMINTANG PURIFICATION MOVEMENT

Yesterday being the Anniversary of the Purification Movement of the Kuomintang, the Shanghai District Kuomintang Headquarters held a commemoration meeting at 10 a.m. Some 200 persons representing various circles were present. Precautionary measures were adopted both in the Chinese controlled territory and the Settlements. However no untoward incidents occurred during the day.

Sin Wan Pao (Tokyo Telegram):

RESTORATION OF JAPANESE SETTLEMENTS DENIED.

The Japanese Foreign Ministry states that no official despatch concerning the restoration of the Japanese concessions at Soochow and Hangchow has been received. The statement adds that all questions between China and Japan must be settled before the concessions are restored.

Sin Wan Pao (Nanking Telegram):

BRITAIN'S MILITARY STRENGTH AT HONGKONG.

According to information secured from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the British Government, in view of the tense situation in the Far East, has increased the military strength at Hongkong.

China Times and other local newspapers:

BUS ACCIDENT ON CONNAUGHT ROAD

With reference to the death of a Chinese named Sun, who was knocked down by a bus belonging to the China General Omnibus Company, reports have appeared in the newspapers, but it is ascertained that some of the points mentioned in those reports are not accurate.

The home of the deceased is in the vicinity of the scene of the accident. At about 6 p.m. on the date of the accident, the deceased left home on a bicycle. He went along Connaught Road from west to east. He was following a bus of the China General Omnibus Company, when he was suddenly knocked down by the rear wheel of the bus on the road between houses Nos. 373 and 375. At this juncture, Bus No. 15007 dashed along from east to west. The driver of the bus took no notice of the injured man on the road. When his car came near the man, he applied the brake, the bus passing over the man. Death was instantaneous. When the driver saw that an accident occurred, he fled at once. There was a crowd of spectators.

Informed of the accident, the mother of the deceased, Sun Cwng Sze, came immediately to the scene. After finding that the body of her son was cold, she burst into tears.

4
April 13, 1934.

Morning Translation.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE C. & S. B. REGISTRY. No. D _____ Date _____/_____/_____
--

As the place of the accident is an extra-Settlement road, Chinese Police came immediately to the scene. Finding that the man had been killed, they sent for a photographer to take a photograph of the scene to be used as evidence in case a dispute should arise.

When Settlement Police arrived and found that the Chinese Police were there before them, they were dissatisfied. Seeing that the driver of one of the buses had already escaped, they thought that large compensation might be demanded and complained that the man was only injured and that he died in consequence of the delay necessitated by the taking of a photograph.

Yesterday the Settlement Police authorities sent a protest to the Bureau of Public Safety with a view to evading the responsibility for the death on behalf of the China General Omnibus Company and the driver of the bus.

It is learned that the relatives of the deceased have retained the services of a lawyer and will file a charge against the company.

It is also indicated that the China General Omnibus Company sent representatives yesterday and the day before yesterday to discuss the question of compensation with the relatives of the deceased in order to settle the matter, but that the family had found out that the driver was once involved in an accident for which he was imprisoned for eight months and that he was released from prison only three days ago. The family refused to settle the matter with the Company and insisted on charging the driver in order that he might be suitably punished for his negligence.

Following the accident, the residents have paid much attention to the development of the case and if necessary a mass meeting of the residents will be held.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE C. & S. B. REGISTRY, No. D 5794 Date 12/4/34

4.
April 12, 1934.

Lorning Translation.

Central China Daily News, Shun Pao and other local newspapers:

BUS ACCIDENT ON CONNAUGHT ROAD.

According to reports published on April 10 in the "North China Daily News", a local foreign newspaper, a bus belonging to the China General Omnibus Company, a British concern, at 6 p.m. April 7 knocked down a Chinese on Connaught Road (extra-Settlement road) and the victim died because the Chinese policeman desired to take a photo of the victim and did not allow the victim to be immediately rushed to hospital for treatment.

Interviewed yesterday by our reporter, Colonel Tan Pao-zeu (谭保寿), officer-in-charge of the 6th Division Police made the following statement:-

"At 6.07 p.m. April 7, when a bus, Route 10, of the China General Omnibus Company was being driven from west to east on Connaught Road, the deceased, Sung Hoong-chwang (沈鴻章), son of the proprietor of a cigarette shop at No. 360 Connaught Road, was riding a bicycle in the same direction on the right side of the bus. Meantime, another bus, Route 10, (No. 15007) of the same concern was proceeding from east to west and in order to allow the bus to pass, Sung Hoong-chwang rode to the left side and was knocked down by the back wheel of the right side of the bus running from west to east and the right front wheel of the bus (No. 15007) crushed his neck and chest.

"Upon learning of this, the post duty policeman concerned went to the scene and the bus driver No. 407 had already left the scene. Sung Hoong-chwang died instantaneously of serious wounds. The death could be testified by his mother Sung Cong-tz (沈翁氏) and one witness named Moh Wen-tuh (马文德) who clearly saw that the body of the victim was motionless.

"In view of the fact that the victim had already died, this District Police had to take a photo of the deceased but the Gordon Road Station desired to remove the dead body. The report published by the "North China Daily News" to the effect that the wounded man met his death because the Chinese policeman did not allow him to be sent to hospital at once is absolutely contrary to fact. Such reports evidently show that those who are concerned intend to evade the responsibility for the accident."

No. D. 5791
Date 12 1 1934

Chinese Authorities Reply To Accident Report

Denial Of Statement That Victim Of 'Bus Accident On Connaught Road Was Not Killed Instantly; Official Statement From Officials

The following official statement regarding the tragic accident on Connaught Road last Saturday, in which a Chinese was killed after being knocked down by an omnibus, has been forwarded to "The Shanghai Times" for publication by the City Government of Greater Shanghai, through the secretary, Mr. T. Y. Chang. The statement is published as received:

"In connection with the Connaught Road Incident in which a Chinese riding a bicycle was knocked down and killed by a 'bus' of the China Omnibus Co., Ltd., the following statement has been issued by the City Government of Greater Shanghai:

"Thorough investigation and questioning of eye-witnesses of the accident have revealed the following facts:—

"1.—Shortly after six o'clock, last Saturday afternoon, April 7, two 'buses' with passengers were travelling along Connaught Road in opposite directions. A Chinese riding a bicycle was travelling side by side with the east-bound 'bus when another 'bus, Settlement licence No. 15007, came along from the opposite direction. The cycle hit the right rear wheel of the first 'bus, and was thrown over with its rider. 'Bus 15007, coming from the east, did not or was unable to pull to a stop. Its right front wheel rolled over the chest and neck of the fallen man, dragging him and his bicycle along for a little distance.

"2.—Up to this point all reports seem to agree, but from this point on reports appearing in the foreign press differ from the findings of Chinese investigation in that while the former state that the victim died nearly an hour after, the latter shows that the man was killed instantly. According to a report issued to the 'North China Daily News' and other foreign dailies, the man was 'shrieking from pain' even after the arrival of the Settlement ambulance. According to a woman eye-witness, who was going in the same direction and saw the whole occurrence, the man was killed instantly and no shrieking or groaning was heard. This is corroborated by the man's own mother, who lives but 50 feet away from the scene of the accident, and was among the first to arrive on the spot. She is positive that her son did not show any sign of life still less any noise. This was before the arrival of the ambulance or even of the party of 'Bus Company's workers, who a few minutes later began to jack up the car. Just imagine the mother of the man making no protest while her son was pinned under the car and was shrieking from pain. Only a person absolutely cut of his senses would believe such a story.

"3.—When the ambulance arrived, the car had already been jacked up. It was then that the ambulance men proceeded to remove the dead, not dying, man. The Chinese police held, however, that the corpse should not be removed until a photographic record of the accident had been obtained. This was done.

"4.—Again, the press reports would have us believe that it took nearly half an hour for the Chinese police to secure a photograph from Bubbling Well Road. The fact, however, is that the photograph was taken about ten minutes after the accident. The arrival of the ambulance was not delayed.

"5.—The mother of the victim states that she was taken to the Gordon Road station and kept there until nearly midnight when she was told to appear the following morning to be taken to the mortuary. When she protested against the illegal detention and cried out aloud over the death of her only son, a foreign officer slapped her face and told her to 'shut up.'

"6.—The next morning, the mother called at the Gordon Road station, bringing with her a woman eye-witness. This important witness was not permitted to appear before the Chinese Coroner.

"The City Government of Greater Shanghai emphasizes that it was the removal of the dead body, but not that of a dying man that was objected to by the Chinese police, whose duty naturally it was to obtain as complete evidence as possible. This is all the more necessary in view of the great difficulty to obtain redress against those enjoying extraterritorial rights, whose reckless driving on Chinese highways has been responsible for so many tragic accidents. The City Government therefore deprecates the deliberate distortion of facts as appearing in the press."

file
JP

End

✓

Last Saturday's Incident In Connaught Road

How Chapei Policemen Callously Prevented S.M.C.
Police Officers From Succouring Grievously
Injured Man; The Official Report

The following is the official version of the Connaught Road affair last Saturday evening, which has attracted such wide attention, issued by the Press Information Office of the Shanghai Municipal Council:

The report of the Commissioner of Police, S.M.P. to the Council states that at 6.30 p.m. on April 7 a telephone message was received at Gordon Road Police Station from the China General Omnibus Company's Depot on Connaught Road that an accident had occurred on Connaught Road near the Depot and that Chapei Police were present and refused to allow the Fire Brigade Ambulance men and Omnibus Company officials to remove an injured person from underneath a bus. Sub-Inspector Tulloch and Sub-Inspector Pridmore at once went to the scene,

where there was a large crowd of Chinese including about 15 Chapei policemen, round a bus. The S. M. Police officers were informed that the Chapei policemen had refused to permit the ambulance men and Bus Co. officials to remove from underneath the bus the injured person who, at the time they attempted to remove him, was still alive.

Chapei Police Intervene

Although Sub-Inspector Tulloch when he arrived formed the opinion that the man was dead, he gave instructions to the ambulance men to remove the man at once and convey him to hospital. Upon this the Chapei policemen intervened and prevented the removal of the man. Steps had been taken to jack up the bus to take the weight off the man, who the two Sub-Inspectors tried in vain to remove in spite of the Chapei policemen's action. The Chapei policemen, declaring that they had as much right on the road as the Settlement Police, insisted that the body should not be moved until they had received orders from their officer in charge of the Division, and also that a photograph should first be taken.

Hands On Pistols

By this time more Chapei policemen had arrived and a serious clash threatened between the Chapei Police and the Settlement Police. In order to avert a clash and to get the injured man removed, Sub-Inspector Tulloch gave orders for a photograph to be taken. The photograph was taken at 6.58 p.m. and another attempt was made to remove the man, but the Chapei policemen, in a high pitch of excitement, pushed the Settlement police and a number of them had their hands on their pistols in a threatening manner. Information was then received that the officer in charge of the Chapei Police Division had ordered his men to cease obstruction and the man was removed at 7.05 p.m. and sent to hospital, where he was pronounced to be dead. The Chapei policemen dispersed and the Settlement Police completed investigation into the accident.

The Commissioner of the Shanghai Municipal Police has pointed out to the Chief of the Public Safety Bureau against the action of the Chapei policemen and requested him to issue orders that will prevent the occurrence of such an incident in the future.

IMP

5

Serious Interference With S.M. Police Functions

Native Police Refuse To Permit Injured Man To Be Removed From Under Omnibus; Clash Of Authority On Outside Road

Another of the numerous cases of interference with the functioning of Municipal Police on the Extra-Settlement Roads occurred on Connaught Road, on Saturday evening, and nearly precipitated an open clash between members of the Shanghai Municipal Police and a number of Chinese police in the vicinity of the China General Omnibus Company. It is to the credit of the Municipal Police that they refrained under the direct provocation from taking direct action to assert their authority in a time of special emergency, involving life and death. Just what official action is to be taken in the matter by the Shanghai Municipal Council has not been disclosed, it being stated by S.M.C. officials yesterday that the Council

was awaiting a full report on the matter."

Although for some time past and since the case of detention of a foreign woman by Chinese police in the Western District, there have been no reported instances of interference by police of the surrounding Chinese areas, Saturday's incident is undoubtedly one of the worst of its kind for some considerable time. That there was not an open clash between the representatives of the S.M.P. and native police is solely due to the forbearance of the men from Gordon Road Station. Menaced with pistols held by the Chinese police they were prevented from removing the body of an injured Chinese from beneath the wheels of a heavy bus, despite the agony of the victim. For approximately three quarters of an hour the unfortunate man was compelled to remain under the bus while the Chinese police awaited instructions from a senior officer and permission to take the victim to hospital. In the meantime, the staff of the Fire Brigade's Emergency Hospital were forced to stand by and listen to the dying groans of the injured man, all attempts to extricate him from beneath the bus being obstructed by the Chinese police. When eventually the bus was jacked up and the victim conveyed to hospital, he was found to be dead.

Facts Of Case

The facts of the case are briefly these: Shortly after 6.20 p.m., on Saturday evening, a bus owned by the China General Omnibus Company was involved in an accident which pinned a Chinese beneath one of the wheels. The accident occurred on Connaught Road, near the Depot of the bus company. A crowd quickly collected and a number of Chinese police gathered on the scene. The staff of the bus company attempted to extricate the victim from beneath the bus but were prevented by the Chinese police. A telephone message was immediately sent to Gordon Road Station and two foreign police officers proceeded to the scene after summoning the Emergency Ambulance.

The Chinese police refused to allow the S.M.P. officer to remove the injured man. Upon the arrival of the Ambulance an attempt was made to jack up the bus, but again the Chinese police interfered. Asked for an explanation of their actions the Chinese police stated that they been instructed to await orders from their senior officers, adding that a photograph of the accident must also be taken.

Removed Dead

Powerless to do anything short of precipitating an open clash and probably leading to bloodshed, the S.M. Police officers awaited the arrival of the photographer. A few minutes before 7 o'clock a flashlight picture was taken. But it was not until about 10 minutes later that orders were received from some quarter which ended the tension. The Chinese police then permitted the bus to be jacked up and the victim to be removed. He was taken to hospital but pronounced dead upon arrival.

Connaught Road is one of the Extra-Settlement Roads the control of which is at present in dispute between the Shanghai Municipal Council and the Chinese authorities. It has been the scene of previous clashes between the two authorities and serious trouble has been narrowly averted.

Recently, assurances were given by the Chinese authorities that interference with the functioning of the S. M. Police on outside roads, and also with foreigners using them, would cease pending a settlement of the present dispute. Assurances were given by the Chinese authorities that Chinese police patrolling sections along these roads had been instructed to refrain from interference with those lawfully using these roads. Breaches of regulations were to be reported to senior officers, but Chinese police were not to be permitted to interfere with the functioning of Settlement police on the roads in dispute. For some time there has been an absence of incidents on extra-Settlement Roads, but Saturday's incident is one of the gravest that has been reported for many months.

It is interesting to note, in this connection, that Major-General Wen Hung-en, Chief of the Public Safety Bureau, in a statement issued yesterday to certain pressmen, flatly denied that the man under the bus had been left there in an injured condition. He stated that the victim had been killed outright and that officers of the Sixth District had sent for a photographer to take a picture of the accident as a basis for legal action.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.

No. D 5794

Date 12 / 4 / 34

File 32

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.

No. D

5794

Date

11 - 18

THE NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 11, 1934

'Torture Under Wheel' Story Denied; Victim Died At Once, Claim

A sensational story appearing in a morning paper concerning a pedestrian's alleged torture for 57 minutes in a bus accident on Connaught Road last Saturday evening and his death because of refusal by Public Safety Bureau officials to allow him to be moved to a hospital was flatly denied by Major-General Wen Hung-en, commissioner of the bureau, in an interview with The Shanghai Evening Post this morning.

"The pedestrian was killed outright," General Wen said. "It is because of the fact that he had been killed that officers of the Sixth District Bureau sent for a photographer to take a picture of the accident as basis for legal action."

General Wen issued the statement following personal investigation into the report. As motorcar accidents are ordinarily routine, he had not been informed of this particular mishap previously, it was understood.

"Foreign police and Chinese police are all the same," said the commissioner. "They are human beings. I could not imagine how one can believe in such a story that Chinese officers would leave a dying man under a wheel in order to take a picture. The Sixth District officer has told me that he has witnesses testifying that the pedestrian was killed outright."

file
JH ✓

BUS ACCIDENT

A Reader's Amazement

To the Editor of the

"NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS"

SIR,—Anyone not long conversant with Chinese psychology, must have read with amazement your account this morning of the accident that occurred on Connaught Road last Saturday, where a human being was forced by Chinese Police (on a Municipal Council Road) to lie screaming under the wheels of a bus, while a photographer was summoned. Fifty-seven minutes of agony, and then a possibly unnecessary death, that the wheels of a correct procedure as conceived by a barbarous Chinese officialdom might run its due course. You state that the ten Settlement police exercised a commendable restraint, thus possibly forestalling a nasty "incident." Personally, I am sickened by the repetition of our "forestalled incidents." I presume the Municipal police had their orders, and how I pity them, red-blooded white men, forced to stand by for the better part of an hour and watch a fellow-mortal die by inches.

A GRAND STAND SEAT.

Shanghai, Apr. 10.

file
JR ✓

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

Misc. 22/34.

REPORT

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE
C. & S. B. REGISTRY.
File No. D 5794
Gordon Road Station.
Date 11/1/34

Subject (in full) Report on Incident on Extra Settlement Roads.

Made by D.S.I. Moir Forwarded by

Sir,

I beg to report that a phone message was received at this station at 6.30 p.m. 7/4/34 from the China General Omnibus Company to the effect that an accident had occurred on Connaught Road near The Bus Company premises. S.I. Tullock in company with S.I. Pridmore immediately attended and ascertained that a male Chinese riding a bicycle had been involved in a fatal accident. The Fire Brigade Ambulance had already arrived on the scene and instructions were given by S.I. Tullock to the officer in charge of the Chapei Police who were in attendance to have the body removed which he refused to do.

Interference then by Chapei Police was experienced when S.I. Pridmore Mr. H. Huxley, China General Omnibus Coy, and ~~S.I. Tullock~~ were threatened with pistols should the body be removed without permitting them first to take a photograph of the accident.

Accordingly to the driver's statement and that of Mr. A. Huxley deceased was alive after the accident, and if the Chapei Police attached to the 6th Division had allowed the deceased to be removed to hospital there may of been a chance of saving the deceased life.

On the arrival of the undersigned and D.S.I. Tseu Han Poo the body had been removed to the Public Mortuary pending an inquest, and although enquiries were made amongst the crowd, that gathered and residents in the vicinity, no witness to the accident could be found.

Although I did not see the incident referred to by S.I. Tullock and S.I. Pridmore, the Chapei Police were assisting in dispersing the crowd which had gathered on the Municipal roadway.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

File No.

REPORT

-2-

Station,
Date 19

Subject (in full)

Made by Forwarded by

J. Moore
S. I.

S.I. Leslie from the Traffic Office attended, also Inspector Taylor of the V.I.O. to test the brakes of the bus concerned, finding them in good working order.

The verdict at the inquest was as follows:

"Deceased was struck by M/Bus 15007, body to be removed by deceased's mother Sung Ong Sz".

*noted
who 10 4/4*

J. Moore
D. S. I.

CONNAUGHT ROAD INCIDENT

Chinese Prevent Removal Of
Accident Victim

KEPT UNDER BUS UNTIL
PHOTOGRAPH TAKEN

Another serious incident which occurred on one of the contested outside roads has just come to light.

On Saturday last, at about 6 p.m., a young Chinese was knocked down and pinned under the wheel of one of the China General Omnibus Co.'s buses running along Connaught Road. The accident occurred almost opposite the bus company's depot. Immediate aid was summoned and a call put in for the emergency ambulance of the Shanghai Fire Brigade.

The Chapel police were immediately on the scene and when the ambulance arrived, six minutes after the accident, they prevented the man from being removed from under the wheel. During the whole of this time the man was alive and shrieking from the pain. When the Chapel police could not be prevailed upon to remove the man a call was put in to the Gordon Road police station of the Shanghai Municipal Police. Three officers from the station were soon on the scene.

Chapel Police Prevent Removal

When further attempts were made to assist the victim, the Chapel police again intervened and prevented any attempt at rescue. They insisted that the man remain where he was, under the wheel of the bus, until a photographer could be summoned to take a picture of the accident.

Reinforcements were called from the Settlement police force and these soon arrived. On their arrival, however, the Chapel police became definitely menacing in their attitude and only very commendable restraint on the part of the Settlement police prevented a very ugly incident.

Eventually the photographer arrived and took a flashlight photograph of the accident. Only then would the Chapel police allow the victim to be removed, some 57 minutes after the accident had taken place. The man was pronounced dead upon being removed, the verdict by the doctors being death through injuries and shock.

Traffic was blocked on Connaught Road for more than three quarters of an hour during which the more than twenty Chapel police on hand did nothing to clear the area. At first only three Settlement police turned out in answer to the call and on the second call being put in the total number was increased to ten.

Police Officer Pushed Over

During the incident the attitude of the Chapel police was distinctly unpleasant. Sub-Inspector Pridmore, one of the Settlement officers, was pushed over by one of the Chapel police who interferred while the Settlement officer was attempting to remove the injured man and place him on a Fire Brigade stretcher. When he regained his feet two or three of the Chinese police were seen to place their hands on their pistols.

A crowd of about 800 people constituted another difficulty for the Settlement police and angry shouts were heard on all sides but the Chapel sub-inspector was successful in preventing any disturbance. The injured man, however, was kept under the bus until a Chinese photographer in Bubbling Well Road was able to get on the scene on instructions of the Chapel police and take a photograph of the bus, the bicycle and the victim.

It is understood that the China General Omnibus Company is forwarding a report on the affair to the Shanghai Municipal Council.

File 72

8314

5